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**THE**  
**ORGANIZED**  
**FARMER**

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**NOVEMBER**

**1957**

**No. 11 Vol. XVI**

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<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$990,461</b>
Total share capital of the Company at July 31st, 1957 .....	\$ 4,804,445
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**TOTAL DISTRIBUTION PAID TO SHAREHOLDERS AND  
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## President's Report

### This we hope for

Everyone is still watching the actions of our new Federal Government. Cash advances are a reality and pensions have been boosted. By the time this issue appears the new Price Support legislation should be before Parliament. This is a most important part of the government program which will receive our undivided attention as soon as it is available. Evidence at this point is that it may not fulfil all our requirements but that it will help materially in solving the farm problems. Other things beside price support have to be done before parity is achieved. In this connection it is interesting to note that the government has agreed to utilize wheat to the extent of ten million dollars in supplying capital to some of the nations in the Colombo Plan. This is a small step in the right direction. When they spend ten times as

much they will make some progress in using our surplus food to good advantage. We are also most interested in negotiations now proceeding with China for the sale of surplus wheat. They have our whole-hearted support.

### FUA reps. at Ottawa

Mr. Henry Young, your Vice-President, has been in Ottawa recently and has given a most interesting report, which is published in this issue. Mr. George Loree, Director of District 12, is in Ottawa at the present time. Mr. Ed Nelson, Executive Member, is leaving for Ottawa shortly. It is probable that I shall join him when the Price Support legislation comes before the House. Other provinces are also doing their share. No effort is being spared in keeping the farmer's viewpoint before Parliament. All this effort will yield results in terms of dollars in farmer's pockets, we can be sure.

### Youth Training

I had the privilege of attending the Rural Leadership School at the Banff School of Fine Arts. Our Junior Section is one of the sponsoring organizations. Many of the Juniors were taking

(Continued on Page 5)

## *The Organized Farmer*

Editor ..... A. W. PLATT

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## *EDITORIALS*

### **SURPLUSES**

#### **Produce More — Get Less**

If anyone still has any doubt as to what surplus production does to farm income consider the following. During the first eight months of 1957 Alberta farmers marketed 171,000 less hogs than they did in the same period of 1956. They received 7 million dollars more for 171,000 less hogs. Similarly they got 132,000 dollars less in 1957 for marketing an extra 3 million dozen eggs. Consider also the fact that the federal government is considering reducing the floor price on eggs because so many eggs are being produced that they don't know what to do with them. Everyone is familiar with the grain surplus, hanging like an albatros, on the neck of Canadian agriculture, impoverishing not only the grain grower, but, by forcing him into the production of pigs, eggs, beef and butter, thus impoverishing all farmers. Consider also the stock question of government when we suggest decent support prices — what will we do with the surplus? Consider also the evidence of experts that increases in productivity for many years to come, will more than take care of our increase in population.

What to do about this problem will have a

profound effect, not only on agriculture but on all Canada and indeed all the world. There are at least three alternatives.

#### **The Three Roads**

We can go on the way we are, until we starve enough people out of agriculture to reduce production. This is the orthodox way — the way the Edmonton Journal recommends. We have made a good start. The only trouble, aside from the farmers' trouble, is that we have reduced the purchasing power of farmers to the point where they can't buy the things that business has to sell. Business isn't doing so well. All the evidence is that we can pull the rest of the economy down to our level. Jake Schulz and others shouted from the roof tops that this would happen — no one paid any attention.

We can do like industry does. Restrict production to the point that the price is right. This may be impossible for the grain farmers selling in our export market but it is certainly possible for our livestock and dairy people selling on the home market. There are lots of arguments, pro and con. Consider these arguments, for this is an important issue farm people may have to face very soon unless the rest of Canadian people decide to go along with us in the third alternative.

We can use our surplus production to help the underdeveloped people of the world to industrialize so that they can get some of the people off the land and have room to produce more. It is perfectly feasible, it will work. Our government has recognized the principle in giving wheat to the Colomobo Plan. The trouble is they didn't give enough. There are great difficulties but they are not insurmountable. It would be better done, on an international basis, but we can't wait forever for other countries to agree on details. If we do this and do it on a large enough scale to meet the need it will cost a great deal of money and we farmers will have to pay our share. We will have to make commitments that may require great efforts on our part to fulfill. This is not simple or an easy solution to the problem.

#### **We Must Decide**

If we reject this idea then I think we can find plenty of work for our displaced farm people making tools of war. We will need them. The underprivileged, the hungry, the cold, will not forever stay away from our shores while we bicker what to do with abundance.

## The Farm Union Is In The Country

On the eve of our Provincial Convention it is well to remember that the Farmers' Union is not in Edmonton, it is in the country. The Farmers' Union is the individual members joined together in the local, and the locals into districts, and the districts into the provincial organization. It is in the local that policy must be made and this policy must be co-ordinated at the district and provincial level. The development of sound farm policy is the most important thing that we do.

Your Board and Executive is the medium whereby policy is carried out. They do the things you ask them to do for you. They also provide information so that policies can be developed and even suggest programs for carrying out policy. They are your servants, holding office at your pleasure, and are expected to devote their time and talents to your affairs, as set out in the constitution. They are charged with the responsibility of giving leadership but they are forbidden to unduly influence or to dictate. Their importance is great, for upon their ability and leadership depends whether or not the policies you develop, are implemented.

Head Office is a convenience, a tool, if you like. It is a physical building and a staff of people to do those physical things that are necessary so that you will have the information you require, and so that your Board and Executive can carry out their responsibilities more efficiently. The contribution of Central Office is limited by the money your organization has for this purpose.

Since the individual members in their local are the most important part of the organization they also have the greatest responsibility. It is their duty to inform themselves on the issues of the day, to attend meetings, and to take part in discussions and to accept any office that their ability permits. It is their duty to diligently assess the work of their elected officials,

to advance those whose contribution is outstanding and to reject those who are unable or unwilling to perform their duty.

If the local fails to function properly the organization perishes. Good leadership at the Board and Executive level may stave off the evil day but it will surely come. Good leadership itself will decay unless it is constantly scrutinized and revitalized with new talent. Well meaning old men can lead the organization to the grave with them. Unscrupulous men can use it for gain and power. Politically motivated men can use it to advance the views of political parties as opposed to farm policy. Men of ability and honor will leave the organization because of the apathy of members. These things happen to organizations, even farm organizations. The price of success is hard work and eternal vigilance.

The Farmers' Union is in the country.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

this course and some of our senior members were there as well. I was greatly impressed by the quality of the instruction these people were receiving and the enthusiasm with which it was received. The Junior Section staged a model meeting under the chairmanship of Miss Hannah Anderson of Sugden. Miss Anderson is a member of the Jr. Executive. It was an excellent piece of work and I was especially proud of the way Miss Anderson conducted her part of the proceedings. Mr. Dean Lien, the Jr. President, was also in attendance, gave excellent leadership to his group throughout the course. We have very able material among our young people. I hope that at all levels they will be given every opportunity to contribute their ability, enthusiasm and new ideas to the F.U.A. Keep this in mind when you are setting up a committee or electing officers at the local, district or provincial level. If we don't use these able, younger members, other organizations will.

## Marketing Board

Meetings on the Egg Marketing Plebiscite are being held throughout the province — some 115 in all. This is the largest series of meetings attempted for some time and was only possible by the whole-hearted cooperation of our

cooperatives, poultry organizations, the Federation of Agriculture, the Cooperative Union and local officials of the Farmers' Union. Mr. Bill Harper of the Cooperative Union, and Mr. Jim McFall of the Federation, have been the people who have really headed this work up. Win or lose we have demonstrated that farm organizations can work together. It has been one of my happiest experiences to have had a part in this program and see the unselfish devotion that all these people put into the effort. When we get the same spirit all across Canada we will really start to go places. I am hopeful that will come soon.

### Unlucky Areas

I am sure that we are all distressed to hear reports that in some districts we have many members who have been unable to harvest any crop this year. In many of these same districts little was harvested last year. The worst fall in history has made it impossible to harvest and it is unlikely that harvesting can be done in the spring. It may even be difficult to seed because of the excess rain this year. Most of these districts are in the Peace River area. In addition to all the problems you have these members have no feed, no seed, and will get no benefits from P.F. A. A. and no advances on farm stored grain. We in Central Office will do all we can to get special government assistance for these fellow members. Is there anything we, who have harvested a good crop can do to help? Any suggestions would be welcome.

### Thank You

May I express the sincere thanks of your executive to all those members who took an active part in the membership campaign. We fully appreciate your efforts. And on behalf of all members I would like to publically thank the Wheat Pool, the United Grain Growers, the U. F. A., the A. C. W. A., the weekly Press, and all others who gave so generously both in financial and moral support of our Membership Drive.

## District Director's Editorial

### F.U.A. WEEK

by Clare Anderson, Freedom, Alta.

Director District No. 3

This is a wonderful way to promote our farm organization. Stress is laid now on collecting memberships. We certainly need the major-

ity of our farmers in our union. Our membership fees are very small, in fact people who belong to a labor union often ask "How can you operate an effective union on this small fee?" It is very simple. When you have paid your F.U.A. dues you have only paid about the equivalent of one month's dues to a labor union.

What, then, about the other 11 months' dues? I do not suggest a higher membership fee because we do not want to exclude any farmer. But the balance has to be paid some way, and the way this is being done is through voluntary work for the union by local officials, canvassers, and a great many loyal members who are willing to work for the welfare of all farmers.

There are many ways we can work. Canvassing for membership is important, but it is far more important to sell our farm union ideals.

We still have too many farmers who believe they can get along as well as the next fellow. I heard a farmer say "When we get our half-section cleared we'll have nothing to worry about. We are in a relatively sure crop district and are good enough farmers that we can make as good a living as our neighbors."

This, I believe, is the general farm philosophy which has given farmers a false sense of security, which has resulted in a depressed agriculture.

Paying membership to a farm organization is not enough. We have to be willing to work together to find the answers to our problems, and then have enough loyalty to our union to support policies recommended by it.

We believe that producer controlled marketing boards are simply a means by which farmers, through group action, can get the best possible price from consumers.

The family farm is well worth fighting for. Anything worthwhile in this world has to be earned.

### It Goes Without Saying

Your staff from the central office during the last two weeks, had an opportunity to visit many locals through the province. It is very encouraging to see such a fine attitude of the farm people towards FUA. When we discussed membership drive — we were assured thus "It goes without saying that we will canvass our community for FUA membership." "We have canvassed our local for twenty two years, and we will be out again this year." One secretary said, "Our foreman will be out next week and we will get the job done in half a day."

## Across The Secretary's Desk

By Mrs. Pansy Molen



### Publicity for Locals

Every local should elect a publicity director whose responsibility it would be to report on meeting and other activities of the local to the local newspapers.

When writing a news article for your local, the item should answer the questions: what happened, where did it happen, when did it happen, why or how did it happen and who was involved. These should be used as guides in constructing every item. An article that has considerable news value today, may have lost most of it by tomorrow and all of it next week, so be prompt in reporting the events of your local. The time to prepare a report of a meeting is immediately after the event, and take it to your local editor at once.

A resume of a whole meeting doesn't make a good news item. Just cover the highlights to make an interesting report. If an idea can be explained in three short words, never use three long ones.

Be sure to have your meeting well advertised in advance, giving information as to the agenda.

### Annual Convention

The F.U.A. annual convention is not far off now, and we hope that all locals have elected delegates. This is where the policy of the organization is made and all locals should have a part in forming it.

Among the speakers who will address the gathering are Hon. Douglas Harkness, Federal Minister of Agriculture, Hon. E. W. Hinman, Provincial Treasurer, and Mr. Geo. McIvor of the Canadian Wheat Board. Mr. Alex McCalla will report on his trip to the American Institute of Co-operation Convention, which he attended last summer.

We shall hope to see many of you at the Macdonald Hotel, Edmonton, December 9th to 13th inclusive.

You can travel thousands of miles without finding better people than those who live next door.

### One More Hard Worker

Secretary,  
Farmers' Union of Alberta,  
9934 - 106 Street,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Madam:

I received my October issue of The Organized Farmer and see that the F.U.A. Membership Drive will be held from November 11 to 16. I am happy that a "Sign Up" week has been planned again for this year, as this is an effective way to increase members.

Our district used to have a strong F.U.A. Local, but for the past year the membership dropped to a very low. Last year there was no membership drive held in our district. Our local executive has almost given up its work due to very low attendance at meetings.

I, who support the F.U.A. Organization strongly, would like to see the membership for the coming year reach a record high. In order to make this more likely, I plan to head a membership drive in our district for a record high too.

My purpose in writing to this office is to let you know that I would like to receive a canvassing kit (or at least a few receipt books) for the coming drive. I will await to receive some material from you very soon.

I will report my progress to your office as soon as possible.

Yours truly,  
Mike Kamelchuk, Jr.  
Prosperity, Alta..

### FUA LOCALS IN TOMAHAWK AREA VERY ACTIVE

The FUA locals in the Tomahawk district had a very busy season on local projects. They helped other groups in the village to build an extension to the community center. This is a fine modern kitchen. It is well finished and painted. These locals also helped with men, materials and money to build a modern curling rink. This is well designed, built and finished. We are sure that this effort will be the pride of the community for many years.

**PICARDVILLE FUA LOCAL IS VERY ACTIVE**

Your reporter visited the Picardville local on Nov. 6. It was very apparent that the chairman of the program committee had prepared an excellent agenda for the evening. Every item on the program was well thought out and organized.

The members sat in a large semicircle and frequently participated in the discussions of the evening. The important local project was the planning on the extension of the local telephone line. Several members planned the location of the telephone lines. Others discussed the financing and still other members talked about the co-ordination of the services.

Wm. Squair, sec. of the Picardville local, proudly reported to us that last spring the local helped three families by putting in about four hundred acres of crop. These three families were stricken with sickness.

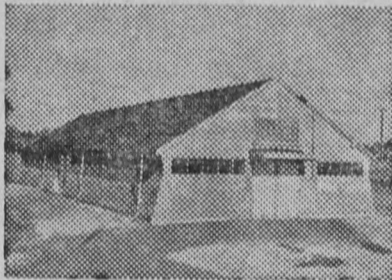
During the year this local discussed the livestock production. They were successful in designing a resolution which was incorporated into a livestock policy in this province. They are very proud of this achievement.

Good work, Picardville members — let us hear some more about your fine effort.

**TEN WAYS TO KILL A SOCIETY**

1. Don't come to the meetings.
2. If you do come, come late.
3. If the weather don't suit you, don't think of coming.
4. If you attend a meeting, find fault with the the officers and other members.
5. Never accept an office, as it is easier to criticize than to do things.
6. Nevertheless, feel hurt if you are not appointed on the committee but, if you are, don't attend committee meetings.
7. If asked by the chairman to give your opinion on some matter, tell him you have nothing to say. After the meeting tell everyone how things ought to have been done.
8. Do nothing more than is absolutely necessary, but when members roll up their sleeves and use their ability to help matters along say that the society is run by a clique.
9. Hold back your dues as long as possible or don't pay at all.
10. Don't bother getting new members, let some one else do it.

—Author Unknown.



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# FWUA Section



## FWUA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by MRS. C. T. ARMSTRONG

### In Remembrance

Our sympathy is extended to Mr. Jack Sutherland and family in the recent passing of Mrs. Sutherland. The farm organizations remember all the hard work that both have given and the F.W.U.A. is especially mindful of the contribution made by Mrs. Sutherland. In later years she was unable to attend our Annual Conventions, but was as alert as ever to our needs, and did help in District 11, also enjoyed seeing her friends at conferences. She will be greatly missed by all.

### Winter Employment Campaign

Again this year we are assisting in trying to find work for those who are out of work through winter months. As I have told you before it is a good time to get skilled workmen to do the odd repairs or decorating that you have planned. In this committee we meet all representatives of labour and business and we try to understand each other and hope to help if we can. The DO IT NOW CAMPAIGN is being planned and will be launched early in January.

### Membership Drive

This Fall I have been in many areas and attended meetings and it is heart warming to find that in sub-districts plans were being discussed for our membership drive. It is hoped that the response will be encouraging to your farm leaders so that they can feel the backing of the people on the land. We are still hoping for better weather for those who still have crops to harvest.

### Annual Convention

Our annual Convention will be held in Edmonton and we are hoping for good representation from all areas, to discuss the various resolutions. Those of us who are charged with getting action on these resolutions will feel better if we have the majority of farmers in our organization, nobody can go it alone these days.

Plans are made to make your Convention an interesting one this year, we hope you will see that your local is represented. While I have visited many areas to speak on A.C.W.W. and show our pictures, I'm hoping that the delegates will hear me talk and if possible will arrange to show the pictures, so that many more people can know just what A.C.W.W. means.

## F.W.U.A. Hi-Lights . . .

Poplar Ridge FWUA #1020 (Red Deer) find the white elephant idea a good one, having brought in \$18.13 up to October, so it will be continued. A bean supper is to be held, with a draw, followed by 500 Card Party. It is hoped to have the film "Out of Darkness" shown in a joint meeting with Poplar Ridge W.I. No charge, but silver collection may be taken for research into mental health.

\* \* \*

Okotoks FWUA #1208 are undertaking a number of money raising activities, and members are asked to bring used clothing for Unitarian Relief.

and fruit to the next meeting for a fruit shower. Scholarship to be presented as soon as pupil's name is available.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Winter, president of Horn Hill FWUA #1011 (Red Deer) told of the activities of the girls' handicraft class held at her home each Friday during the summer, assisted by Mrs. R. S. Comfort of Red Deer FWUA #1026. The October Newsflashes were found to be very informative and led to some good discussion.

\* \* \*

The members of New Borschiw FWUA #625 (Haight) have decided to have a question box into which any member with a beef re FUA or FWUA may drop questions or suggestions which may be discussed at the next meeting during a question and answer period.

\* \* \*

Anthony Hill FWUA #909 Ponoka plan to hold their membership drive in conjunction with Don Clayton's film on Australia, to be shown in November. A nice donation was made to the Unitarian Service Committee.

\* \* \*

Conrich FWUA #1007 has been very busy as the following will show: \$490.00 collected for the cancer fund; Arghan made and sent to the crippled children; 1 blanket to Unitarian Service; 3 blankets to Sunset Lodge; and 1 blanket to Red Cross.

\* \* \*

Though mainly inactive during the summer, for various reasons, Shady Nook FWUA #1014 (Red Deer) has carried on their "work session" to repair and pack clothing for needy Indians. This local expresses itself as being pleased with the Nutrition Bulletins and feel that not enough use is being made of the information. They are distributed to the members for reading.

\* \* \*

Three Hills FWUA #1018 are giving a footstool to the local hospital, also \$5.00 worth of fruit to the Linden Home every month. It is planned to entertain the families of members, and the local FUA and their families will be asked to participate, early in December. A demonstration of cosmetics was given following the meeting.

\* \* \*

Roseleaf FWUA #1023 (Sylvan Lake) report much interest in the literature supplied, although for various reasons it has been difficult to find time to keep up with it all, but hopes are high that it will all be read and enjoyed.

\* \* \*

At the September meeting of One Tree FWUA #1307 (Brooks) Mrs. Natalie Roberts read her bulletin on "Civil Defence" and questions on it were answered by her. Industry in Australia and Australian sports were reported on by members, and the response on the study of Australia is really good.

Successful bake sale held and enough money is now on hand to send a delegate to the convention.

\* \* \*

Marwayne FWUA #716 report a \$150.00 donation to the Marwayne Home & School Association for playground equipment. Many community activities are now being undertaken or helped by this local, among them being a very successful horticultural show, the third and best so far. They also did the registering and mailing of about 1000 appointment cards for chest X-ray T.B. clinic in the town. 839 were X-rayed.

\* \* \*

Hazel Bluff FWUA #305 (Westlock) plan a Hallowe'en party (like one held a year ago which was such a success). Two handicraft demonstrations by the home economist and a basket demonstration, by Mrs. Nielson of Barrhead, were well received. Conventions at Boyle, Athabasca and Clyde were attended by members. Flour was sold to obtain a large set of dishes for community hall. 23 of the members enjoyed a bus trip to Edmonton in August, an annual event.

\* \* \*

Dr. Gillespie of Stony Plain Health Unit was guest speaker at a meeting of Stony Plain FWUA #501, and explained the work of the health unit.

\* \* \*

Craigmyle FWUA #1102 have changed the time of their meetings to 2:30 instead of 2:00 o'clock.

\* \* \*

Red Deer FWUA #1206 sponsored a Junior Garden Club project this year and, next spring, each participating member will be given gladioli bulbs. This local and Horn Hill 1011 worked with a vacation-junior sewing club and did very well.

\* \* \*

Viking South FWUA #807 plan to hold their annual meeting in November. It is hoped to have Don Clayton with his pictures from Australia in the near future. Also, a meeting on civil defence is planned.

\* \* \*

Park Grove FWUA #609 (Vegreville) report a very busy meeting, and plans made for Hallowe'en and Christmas parties. Mrs. Zuk showed pictures that her son took at the Boy Scout Jamboree in England.

\* \* \*

Spruceville FWUA #912 (Lacombe) report election of new officers. Also report a successful turkey supper held in October.

\* \* \*

Ascot-FWUA #715 (Wainwright) also report election of new officers for 1958.

\* \* \*

Election of new officers is reported by Fairdonian Valley FWUA #802 (Sedgewick), also donations to U.S.C. and C.N.I.B.

(Continued on Page 27)



**F.U.A. OFFICIALS ATTEND BANFF LEADERSHIP COURSE:** (l. to r.) Mrs. Rita Finlay, Lloydminster; Mrs. Mildred Green, Bow Island; Dean Lien, President F.U.A. Juniors, Warner; Hartley McDonald, Vulcan at the piano; Mrs. Olive McWha, Edmonton (formerly of Vulcan) and Hannah Anderson, Sugden.

### DISTRICT NO. 12 F.W.U.A. RALLY

Farm Women's Rally, held in the Redlandview Hall, on October 18, with district 12 director, Mr. Margaret House, in charge, proved to be a very enjoyable day, with our provincial president Mrs. Armstrong and her husband in attendance. The morning session was attended by about 30 ladies. They heard a very good talk on the Home and School Organization, given by Mrs. Milt Ward. She urged all to join and work with this organization for the good of the children of the country. The ladies of the Red Cross F. W. U. A. catered to a very delicious and lovely noon luncheon.

Upon reconvening after lunch we heard a very good paper, given by Mrs. House, on Alcoholism. We were favored with community singing, led by the Berrywater local. Also we heard two lovely solos rendered by Mrs. Maclean, also of Berrywater local.

Mr. Armstrong ran the slides and Mrs. Armstrong gave the commentary on their recent trip to the A.C.W.W. Convention held in Ceylon this past summer. This was most interesting and was attended by approximately 40 ladies.

The rally was brought to a very enjoyable ending by a lovely lunch served by our hostess local — the Red Cross Local of Vulcan. We hope to see more out in other years as we, who attend, feel they are very worthwhile.

### JOIN YOUR F.U.A. CAR INSURANCE POOL AT ANNUAL CONVENTION

F.U.A. members are urged to bring their present motor vehicle insurance policies to the annual convention. Insurance personnel will be present to explain present coverage and advise as to future policy needs. Policy forms will be filled out to take effect at a date set by the member.

This is your chance to become informed on insurance coverage and also to boost your Car Insurance Pool.

### FOREMEN'S GET-TOGETHER AT LACOMBE

Mr. D. G. Whitney district director chaired the Meeting of the FUA membership drive foremen. The meeting was very well attended. The Foremen made detailed plans for membership canvass. The districts were carefully allocated to each team so that each canvasser knew exactly where to go. The foremen exchanged the various methods of interview approach. These comments were of considerable interest to your reporter. Elsewhere in this issue is a letter by Mr. Whitney. We commend it to your attention.

# Alberta Livestock Co-operative Limited

DEAR FRIENDS:

Recently we wrote the Ontario Hog Producers Co-operative asking how they were getting along with their sales program for the Ontario Hog Marketing Board. To the middle of September the sales agency had not directed and hogs, they were working on a basis of voluntary consignment to accumulating centres and on that basis were actually selling about 23% of all Ontario hog production.

We were told that on September 16th their program of directing hogs to accumulating centres became effective in seven counties, namely Huron, Grey, Bruce, Dufferin, Wellington, Halton and Peel and for that week the hogs on this open market basis amounted to 42.9% of Ontario production.

A further directional program was started on October 14th in the counties of Middlesex, Lambton, Elgin, Kent and Essex, which should add another 10% of the Ontario hogs to those sold in the open.

Apparently repercussions were almost immediate, witness the following newspaper report:

"Disgruntled farmers have stepped up their attacks on two of Ontario's marketing schemes while a third is enjoying an uneasy truce.

Groups of hogs and peach producers are circulating petitions in their respective industries, asking the provincial government to alter the powers of the Ontario Fresh-Peach Marketing Board and the Ontario Hog Producers Association.

The dissidents are those who feel a farmer should do his own marketing.

The hog marketing scheme was defended Tuesday by Association President Charles McInnes.

He blamed the Ontario Shippers and Truckers Association for most of the pressure which led Agriculture Minister Goodfellow last week to announce a VOTE AMONG HOG PRODUCERS NEXT SPRING TO DECIDE WHETHER THE PLAN SHOULD BE CONTINUED.

The rebellion among hog producers flared up Monday night in Aylmer, 15 miles southeast of London, where 200 producers at a meeting signed a petition calling for the immediate removal of the marketing board's powers."

We thought you might be interested in these developments. You might ask 'What does it prove?' To us it proves this: You're either interested in the marketing of your produce or you're not interested. For every change in the marketing picture that some propose there are just as many that are opposed to change. Both factions will work hard to establish what they believe to be right and logical.

Now the question is — Where do you belong? Are you hot for a change? Are you content to go along with the present set-up, whatever the shortcomings?

YOU can have a voice in whatever marketing schemes are proposed or are in effect. YOU can, through your support of co-operative methods of marketing on a voluntary basis give your marketing both strength and purpose. Through your indifference or lack of interest, dissatisfaction, suspicion and decentralization will surely and sharply reduce your marketing potentialities.

Sincerely yours,

G. WINKELEAAR, General Manager.

# ON OTTAWA FRONT

by Henry Young

It is a stimulating experience to spend some time around Parliament these days. To one who has been there in other years the difference is very apparent. Gone is the old Cabinet with their static minds, backed by a top-heavy and subservient majority. Gone is the deadly dullness of a parliament where nothing new ever seemed likely to happen.

The new House of Commons has almost 100 new members serving their first term. The new Conservative Cabinet is composed entirely of members who have never served as Ministers of the Crown before. Naturally, there is some fumbling on the front benches as the experienced partisans on the Liberal side shower them with embarrassing questions, but the new Ministers hold their own fairly well, and in some cases give more than they take.

Most of the new members of this parliament are comparatively young. Most of them are, of course, Conservatives, but there are six new C.C.F. members and four new Social Creditors. It is a pleasure to meet these new members. Regardless of party, they seem to be men of good character and fine personality, imbued with a high determination to do their very best for Canada.

One very notable difference in this House of Commons is their attitude toward farm problems. Actually, most of the Conservatives were elected on their program of equality for agriculture and the members feel their responsibility. Never before have I found such a widespread awareness of Agriculture's position among the back-benchers of the party in power. Just how far this will be expressed in legislation is not yet certain, but signs are encouraging.

Another encouraging factor is the very cordial attitude of members of all parties towards the farm unions. The work which we have done through the past years in bringing our problems to all parties is now beginning to show results. The new government realizes the non-partisan character of the unions, and their close connection with the man on the land.

The new legislation for cash advances is now in effect. This will be far better than the old bank loan system, but it is of course not a solution to Agriculture's basic problem. The Government is well aware of this fact, and has

promised a new system of price stabilization. We must see that they keep their promise.

At this critical time it is more important than ever that western farmers get behind their farm unions. Already the effects of the unions' work can be seen at Ottawa. Further results will depend largely upon the support which farmers give to their unions. No doubt the politicians of today are watching this point closely.

To me the worst factor in the present situation at Ottawa is the political manoeuvring which is going on. If the members of our new parliament could only drop this party nonsense, and get on with legislation, they could do a great job for Canada, but the party spirit is still rampant in the head men of the old parties, and the threat of a new election hangs over the scene like a cloud. Actually, as far as can be seen, there is no good reason for a further election for years to come. As long as the Government brings down good legislation they are assured of ample support in the present house. But Mr. Diefenbaker, like the Liberal Government before him, would love to have a solid and subservient majority at his command, so an election can be expected at the time considered most favorable to the government party's fortunes. The interests of the country will be a secondary consideration.

Personally, I do not subscribe to the party idea that a so-called "strong government" is either necessary or desirable. The experience of the past, in Canada, shows that when cabinets had large and solid majorities, they paid little attention to the wishes of the people. The Trans-Canada Pipe Line legislation, and the utter indifference of the Liberal Government to the agricultural crisis are both good examples of this fact. Back through the years, Canadian political history is full of such examples where so-called "strong" Cabinets acted, or failed to act, without regard to public opinion. Actually, the people of Canada could be better served by a government which has to depend more on popular support for its measures.

All politicians will of course pay lip service to the "Supremacy of Parliament" but in actual fact when one party has a solid majority the party caucus is supreme. This is the system evolved by our great grandfathers to fit the ox-cart era. It is as out of date as the ox-cart. Until the real responsibility for legislation is transferred from the party caucus to the House of Commons, the public at large will continue to regard politicians with scorn and public affairs with indifference. In my opinion a reform of our political system is long overdue.



Something to  
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# DISEASE CONTROL IN CATTLE

## PROGRAM TO CONTROL BRUCELLOSIS

The protection of ALBERTA CATTLE HERDS against Brucellosis by calfhood vaccination was commenced as a municipal project in 1950. Under this plan all heifer calves, in each calf crop, were vaccinated each year; and the cattle sold at auction sales were blood tested. This process has been repeated each year. At the present time there are thirty-three Brucellosis Restricted Areas throughout the province.

The veterinary specialists say that calfhood vaccination on a large scale is showing good results, and continued assistance from the livestock men will assure the eradication of Brucellosis.

The Provincial Department of Agriculture says that several organizations have made representations to them for financial assistance in defraying the fee for calfhood vaccination. After consultation and agreement the policy is as follows:

1. The Provincial Department will contribute forty cents (40c) per calf vaccinated to reduce the uniform vaccination fee by that amount. This forty cents will go to the Veterinarians. An additional ten cents (10c) per calf vaccinated will be paid to the Municipal District, County or Improvement District to defray part of the cost of organizing the vaccination program as undertaken by the Agricultural Service Board. The balance of the cost of organizing will be defrayed by the Municipal District, County or Improvement District. Thus the Department will contribute a total of fifty cents (50c) per calf vaccinated.

2. In the main, two sets of vaccination fees have been in existence in Brucellosis Restricted Area. To assure equal benefit of the above assistance from public funds it was deemed advisable to endeavour to have a uniform vaccination fee established. Therefore, the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association was asked to set such a fee which has been accepted by the Association of Municipal Districts. It is as follows: — a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) for each of the first ten calves and sixty cents (60c) for each calf thereafter, with the option of charging an additional twenty-five (25c) for individual certificates, such as for purebreds.

3. In application, this means that a cattleman will pay sixty cents (60c) for each of the first ten calves and twenty cents (20c) per calf thereafter.

4. The Department will continue to pay twenty-five (25c) per animal blood-tested for auction sales as required by the regulations. This is to assist the municipal district in defraying the cost of branding positive reactors to prevent such infected animals being sold to unsuspecting buyers.

5. When the brucellosis control policy of the Provincial Department was enacted in 1949 provision was made for several years of a complete calfhood vaccination program to be followed by a blood test to remove the remaining infected animals. Late in 1956 the Federal Department of Agriculture restated that they will do the blood testing free-of-charge and pay compensation for the infected animals. Under their program the areas will be designated as Brucellosis Control or Certified Areas. A letter on the method of conversion from Provincial Brucellosis Restricted Areas to Dominion Control Areas will be forwarded to the Municipal Districts shortly as well as a copy of Dominion regulations. Five to seven years of vaccination should take place before conversion to the blood test program.

6. The Provincial Department will continue the financial assistance on calfhood vaccination for two years after the commencement of the Federal testing program. It is recommended that vaccination should continue after that time but the cost will be defrayed completely by the cattle owner.

**Further disease control among cattle depends upon available veterinarians from Canadian Department of Agriculture (Veterinary Section).**

In the memo, from the Alberta Department, mention is made of the Federal Department of Agriculture and their free blood testing program for Brucellosis eradication. This service is to commence, if applied for, about five years after the calfhood program has been carried on by the Provincial set-up. There are several districts in Alberta that are ready for this service — but there is one catch. The Dominion Department of Agriculture also has the T.B. eradication program in progress. At the present rate this testing should be completed by 1960. We, the F.U.A. think that representation should be made to the Federal Dept. to speed up the T.B. testing service. At the present time there is no reason for slow action. Here is the situation — the Federal veterinary personnel do not want

to undertake a blood-testing program until all the cattle in Alberta have been tested for T.B. at least once. The logical thing to do is to speed up the T.B. testing. This can be done but a request should come from the farmers.

If all the cattle are T.B. tested then the veterinary service can be assigned to the blood-testing program to eradicate Brucellosis in areas that are ready for it.

### PROGRESS IN BRUCELLOSIS CONTROL

Your writer of this article has been associated with this work in several ways — and assures the cattle owners that blood-testing of cattle to eliminate Brucellosis carriers is a very desirable move. There are several case studies of large farms in Alberta which prove that elimination of carriers is a very necessary step in complete eradication of Brucellosis.

Year	Heifer Calves vaccinated
1945	2,205
1946	3,608
1947	6,781
1948	9,019
1949	21,000
1950	46,300
1951	76,348
1952	76,348
1953	132,026
1954	147,483
1955	172,127
1956	204,127
1957	259,884

The report from Veterinary Services says that 60% of heifer calves in Alberta have been vaccinated.

Should laymen be able to obtain Brucellosis vaccine? Our attitude is — no, because of the human health hazard involved. The vaccine is a live organism. Our own experience is that regardless of instruction — accidents do happen and people and children get exposed to danger, so we do not recommend this idea.

Should all heifers be vaccinated? Our attitude is yes, because it is most feasible to vaccinate all heifers. It is somewhat difficult to select heifers for breeding purposes at an early age. Also, an area that has all heifers vaccinated commands higher prices. Therefore, we endorse the program — that all heifers be vaccinated.

### WHAT WE DO IN BRUCELLOSIS CONTROL DEPENDS UPON PROGRESS OF T.B. CONTROL

The present situation of the T. B. testing program is as follows. The first general test has been completed in all parts of Canada except small pockets in Newfoundland, Saskatchewan

and Alberta. During the summer season of 1957, in Alberta, over 150,000 head of cattle were subjected to initial T.B. tests. The costs of these programs are paid out as follows:— The Federal Treasury pays for help and materials and lodgings. The Provincial Government pays for transportation.

There are four phases to this work — (1) T.B. testing of cattle in restricted M.D. areas. (2) T.B. testing of cattle under individual farm set-up. (3) T.B. testing of cattle for export. (4) T.B. testing for feeder cattle.

In Alberta 1,175,000 cattle are under supervision for T.B. control. In regard to T.B. testing the following areas need the first initial tests: two special areas, 16 improvement districts and 2 Municipal Districts in the Peace River area.

### T.B. AREA TESTING IN ALBERTA

Year Ending March 31,	Number of cattle tested for T.B.
1944	44,785
1945	18,055
1946	19,615
1947	18,415
1948	25,011
1949	34,111
1950	55,810
1951	164,035
1952	152,028
1953	160,835
1954	188,822
1955	294,607
1956	254,827

Total number of cattle in Alberta under supervision of the T. B. testing program:—

Year ending March 31,	
1951	514,000
1952	875,000
1953	800,000
1954	991,281
1955	960,945
1956	1,175,000

According to D.B.S. report in 1956 the total cattle number in Alberta was about 2.4 million.

The percentage of cattle under supervision (Mar. 31, 1956) of T.B. testing program is 58% as reported by Veterinary Director General. A fair amount of testing has been carried on in 1956 and 1957. Source of information: Report of Veterinary Director General.

Percentage of cattle tested for T.B. by Provinces:— Newfoundland — 93, P. E. Is. — 100, Nova Scotia — 100, New Brunswick — 100, Quebec — 100, Ontario — 100, Manitoba — 100, Saskatchewan — 80, Alberta — 58, B. C. — 95.

## Del McCorkle's Roundup

### FUA OBJECTIVE

As you read this, our "Membership Week" will be over. We anticipate it will be a success presuming all Foremen had their canvassers out. At the time of this writing we are just nicely started. As a result of the late harvest in most of the province, a lot of the locals have been delayed in sending in the names of their foremen. It has been encouraging to note that many of these locals have sent in these names this past week, and they are now ready for action.

Each year it is becoming more apparent that the farmers must be fully organized to hold their own in a completely organized society. At one time, Agriculture was the leader of basic industries for Canada. This lead has now been lost to minerals and oils. We are no longer the largest industry in Canada. We must double our F.U.A. Membership. We need a stronger voice to keep the people aware of this economic change. With the income of all industries rising why then should agriculture's be dropping? If the farmers are not aware of this fact, and are not prepared to become fully organized, so that they can effectively present their case, agriculture may soon become the forgotten industry in our modern economy.

The following is a copy of a clipping my Father sent to me thirteen years ago. I have carried this in my wallet ever since and often read it. Maybe you will find it interesting too.

"The freedom to choose where we will live, what we will eat, where we will work, and what we will do with our lives, is our choicest blessing. If some fellows want to work their heads off and be buried young, well that is their business. If some of us want to take it easy and sleep in a trailer that's our business.

Men of spirit will not be fooled by the seductive schemes of balmy sentimentalists who promise midnight reveleries without morning-after headaches.

Life is a one-way street. No matter how many detours you take, none of them heads back. And once you know and accept that, life becomes much simpler. Because then you know you must do the best you can with what you have and what you are and what you have become."

"You must do the best you can with what you have and what you are."

Our "best" would be a completely organized agriculture, for which the F.U.A. stands.

## "Lest We Forget"

\* \* \*

Mr. D. G. Whitney, Director, FUA  
Dist. No. 9, read the following letter,  
on November 2, to the FUA Foremen

\* \* \*

Henry Wise Wood is known to most of us as a man who played a very prominent part in U.F.A. leadership, and in the launching of the Alberta Wheat Pool.

He has been honored in many ways — he was the recipient of the Cross of St. Michael and St. George, a tribute to his leadership, and in 1929 the University of Alberta conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. The Provincial Government, at the same time, honored him by hanging a painting of his likeness in the Legislative building.

Insofar as my knowledge goes, the Farmers' Union itself has only contributed lip service, and many young farmers or young Albertans would have to stop and think if they were asked who the man was, or what did he do. So, I would like to outline an idea that was sparked by an article in the June 27, 1957, issue of the Western Producer — one in a series entitled "50 Mighty Men" by Grant McEwan, deals with the Man from Missouri, Henry Wise Wood.

It occurred to me that the Farmers' Union should do something to perpetuate his memory, something substantial like a stone Cairn near his home town of Carstairs. If some F.U.A. member could not be found who would donate it, Central Office could procure a plot of land near the No. 2 Highway. One or two stones could be collected by every active local in the province if there was sufficient interest.

A stone Cairn could be erected and inscribed that would not only be unique in construction, but of interesting design and, possibly, be of some advertising value to the Farmers' Union. It would be a project that all F.U.A. members could take part in if they wished, and only the best material need be used.

It could have two bronze plaques, if agreeable. The one on the front commemorating H. W. Wood, and one on the back stating that material came from all parts of the Province.

When it comes to paying income taxes, some people think filing means chiselling.

# Alberta Farmers' Opinion On Grain Situation

During the month of October many FUA locals have discussed the grain situation at their meetings. The response to the questionaire has been very gratifying. The answers to the question are summarried below.

The first question was:

**Do you think that more effort should be made by Canadian Wheat Board to sell Canadian wheat, or that all effort is being made?**

Wheat board should make more effort — 80% farmers said yes.

Wheat board makes enough effort — 10% farmers said yes.

Wheat board makes too much effort — none

Don't know — 10% farmers said yes

**Main Comments the locals gave:**

Maybe some markets could be found with more concentrated effort.

Many hungry mouths in the world.

Sell to Britain for goods, instead of buying from USA.

Loss of aggressiveness in sale of Canadian grain.

Present lack of sales and lack of aggressiveness in pursuing markets.

Since our share of the world market has dropped more effort is needed.

Should try and compete with U.S.A. in the selling of wheat abroad.

The second question was:

**Should the Canadian government support the International Wheat Agreement?**

Farm people answered YES 88%

Farm people answered NO 5%

No answer 7%

**The main comments the locals gave were as follows:**

Stay in the market and contact the consuming countries.

Stabilize the price.

More cooperation through group participation

Prevent a price fluctuation in bumper years.

The fourth question was:

**Should the Canadian government sell Canadian Wheat for Canadian dollars only?**

Farmers who said YES 7%

Farmers who said NO 93%

**The following are some of the comments the locals gave us:**

You will note that this question produced many responses from our local.

If the country has no \$ it may have goods or other currency.

Exchange of goods.

We cannot dispose of our surpluses.

Accept foreign currency.

Promote trade in sterling bloc.

Because there is a shortage of Canadian dollars in foreign countries.

Could sell more grain if barter was used.

We suggest paying armed forces with foreign currency taken for wheat.

World bank could handle some.

We are losing too much foreign trade.

We want more trade in goods from "dollar poor" countries.

For goods from Great Britain valuing their goods as price in Canada.

Reduce trade deficit from U.S.A.

Loss of sales.

Countries without dollars may want wheat and consider credit or barter.

The fifth question was:

**Should the Canadian government compete with USA surplus disposal program?**

Farmers who said YES 7%

Farmers who said NO 93%

**The locals gave the following comments for their point of view:**

Only apparent solution to the problem.

We must compete in the world markets.

To help backward countries.

Impossible — Canada not well enough populated.

It has never been tried.

Too much surplus here.

To prevent further loss of sales.

The sixth question was:

**If the government should decide to make deficiency payments along the lines suggested by the CFA & IFUC, and these payments are in the neighborhood of 20c per bus., and assuming that deliveries this fall will be slow and for the next crop year sales will not exceed 5 bus. per seeded acre, do you think, that these payments will meet the immediate problems of the grain producers?**

Farmers who said YES 25%

Farmers who said NO 75%

**The following are some of the comments the locals gave:**

Sliding scale prices to maintain family farm -

Low interest loans.

Finding new markets, selling below cost and bonus farmers.

Free trade with other countries.

Advances on farm stored grain without interest charges.

It will be a big step — a step in the right direction.

Bring down farmers' operating costs.

Deficiency payment of 50c per bushel.

Would help

This is a feeding area and any deficiency payments are not fair to the feeder.

Government purchase of grain in bin on the farm.

## FARM YOUTH AND A.I.C.

by A. McCalla

Of the two thousand people who attended the Summer Session 900 were farm young people. The summer session program was a split one with separate sessions for youth and youth leaders. Perhaps here it would be wise to mention the various youth organizations which were represented at this session. The 1,500,000 4-H club members of America were well represented and I do not think it is necessary to explain its program as it is very similar to the program

Anything to decrease costs.  
Parity price on grain.

The seventh question was:

**In sale of surplus wheat, would you consider barter?**

Farmers who said YES 98 %  
Farmers who said NO 2 %

The eight question was:

**Should Canada accept foreign currency when selling wheat?**

Farmers who said YES 84 %  
Farmers who said NO 7 %  
NO answer 9 %

The ninth question was:

**Would it be desirable to sell Canadian Wheat for credit?**

Farmers who said YES 72 %  
Farmers who said NO 21 %  
Farmers who are not sure 7 %

The tenth question was:

**Would give away program do more good than harm?**

Farmers who said YES 34 %  
Farmers who said NO 39 %  
Don't Know 27 %

The fifteenth question was:

**What is your opinion about wheat acreage reduction?**

Farmers who said impractical 70 %  
Farmers who said practical 30 %  
Farmers who said Desirable 45 %  
Farmers who said Undesirable 55 %  
Farmers who said Unnecessary 50 %  
Farmers who said Necessary 50 %

About ten per cent of the farm people are undecided on these questions.

The sixteenth question was:

**Are you in favour of soil bank policy?**

Farmers who said YES 45 %  
Farmers who said NO 44 %  
No opinion 11 %

used in Alberta. Each of the major farm bodies with youth programs was represented, including the Farm Bureau, Grange and the Farmers' Union. Also there were representatives from the Future Farmers of America and on this I wish to spend a little time.

The Future Farmers of America was formed into a national organization in 1928 and was patterned after the Future Farmers of Virginia. In some rural high schools in the U.S. there is a course offered called Vocational Agriculture. This course is a three year course which gives credits towards a high school diploma. In schools where this course is offered the class may become an F.F.A. chapter with the Vocational Agriculture instructor as the chapter advisor. Thus the young organization of farm boys becomes an intra-curricular activity having its origin and roots in a definite part of the school curriculum. Some of the things members learn through active participation are how to conduct and take part in a public meeting; to speak in public; to buy and sell co-operatively; to solve their own problems; finance themselves; and to assume civic responsibility. All these things are given to a boy to help him progress towards the goal of establishment in a farming business. Membership in the organization is for the three years the young man spends in school and three additional years if he maintains active member status. Local chapters of the F.F.A. are co-ordinated by a State Executive and the 47 State units are in turn co-ordinated by the National Future Farmers of America. The F.F.A. has a membership of 383,000 members. The Sister organization The Future Home Makers of America is an organization of young girls much the same in structure but teaching sewing, cooking, etc. It has about 500,000 members. A third organization called the New Farmers of America is the colored counterpart of the above mentioned organization. This body because of U.S. segregation policies, is separated from the whites, boasts a membership of 200,000 young people.

The A.I.C. session as I see it offers three great lessons to us especially regarding the Annual Farm Young People's Week held at the University of Alberta in June. I will enlarge on them one by one.

First — Every young person there had won a state or county contest in fields regarding co-ops, be it public speaking, debating, projects, essays, etc. and thus when he or she came to the A.I.C. each felt a responsibility to attend sessions and learn something to take home to their club or chapter. This feeling of being privileged and responsible for attendance is lacking in F.Y.P.W. also because there is no

challenge to attending, the quality of young people is not high.

Second — Every young person attending was accompanied by his or her group leader. This was not a chaperoning measurement but quite the opposite. While youth attended their sessions their leaders were attending courses in "Co-operative" Education of Youth, given by some of the top men in the the Co-operative Faculties of U.S. Colleges. Thus there were three sections or education levels, college professors, Youth leaders, Youth, working in this order.

Third — The Youth program was prepared and carried through by the young people themselves with only adult supervision to give ideas and topics. A typical youth session would have and adult supervisor, a youth chairman and three youth participants, this section would discuss a topic such as "What is a co-operative?", or "How co-operative education works". These three youth participants presented a prepared five minute or so talk on the topic in general session, also one or two adults would speak in general terms to give direction to the thinking of the youth. Then the group of 900 young people would break down into discussion groups of about 60. Each section would have an adult advisor, a youth chairman and three youth participants who presented prepared talks usually about their home state. The group was then thrown open for discussion. Anyone who thinks a discussion group of 60 is too large. I beg to differ with them. In one discussion period of 45 minutes I heard 15 young people stand, face the group and state their views. In summary the greatest lesson we may learn is from the tremendous youth participation and preparation of the program.

Out of 900 youth present 300 or 1/3 took a prepared part in the program — this meant the writing of a talk, presenting it, and submitting it in triplicate to the adult advisor. Also a great number took part in informal discussions. The interest of the young people present was much greater in people of their own age, speaking a familiar language than in hearing professional people speak in technical terms.

The A.I.C. presented \$50 scholarships to the outstanding 4-H clubs in each state and also offers a trip to the Summer Session for the F.F.A. chapter in each state which is outstanding in its farmer co-operative activity.

Youth work done by U.S. Agricultural Organization is outstanding and presents us with a high goal for which to strive.

In conclusion I want to list six things which

were hoped to be accomplished by the summer session:

1. The opportunity for young people to make friends and acquaintances.
2. The opportunity to participate in discussions and sessions.
4. The opportunity to ask questions.
5. The opportunity to take notes.
6. The opportunity to have fun.

Here is a definition for enthusiasm, something from the A.I.C. I will always remember and I hope you do too. Do more than LOOK — OBSERVE; Do more than TOUCH — FEEL; Do more than READ — OBSERVE; Do more than LISTEN — WONDER; Do more than THINK — PONDER; Do more than TALK — SAY SOMETHING; Do more than WISH — DO SOMETHING.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Alberta Wheat Pool, The United Grain Growers Limited, the U.F.A. Co-operative Limited and the Jr. F.U.A. for their co-operation in making my trip possible.

#### FUA AND FWUA SUB DISTRICT RALLY AT SPRUCEVIEW

Spruceview is about twenty miles west of Innisfail in District No. 10. The Rally was organized by Mrs. Braithwaite of Red Deer. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Savage were in charge of the program. Both Mr. and Mrs. Savage are sub-directors for FUA and FWUA.

During the noon hour a delicious dinner was served by the FWUA ladies. So well did the members and visitors partake during the dinner, that some of the speakers had some difficulty to get into the assigned subject matter.

Mr. Holbrook from Calgary office of Co-op Casualty Insurance Co. spoke on the FUA Car Insurance Pool. He described in detail the Co-op package deal for cars and farm trucks. The rates are available only to FUA Members. The FUA members were very much interested in the spread between the co-op package rates and the ordinary commercial rates.

Mrs. Barker, FWUA director, spoke on the activities of the farm women and gave a long list of accomplishments of the FWUA. Mr. L. Hilton, district director spoke on the work of FUA, and encouraged the members to extend the FUA membership. He was very happy to review the achievements of the FUA and Farm organizations.

W. A. Moisey from Central office spoke on Rural Credit.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Savage were re-elected sub directors for the following year.

# C.C.I.L. Answer To Farm Machinery Prices

We may not like it, but we must face the fact, that farm population is steadily decreasing in Canada. On the prairies we lose about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of our farmers every year. The Gordon Report suggests that this trend will continue and that the present percentage of our population living on the farm (13.6%) will decline to 9% by 1980. The land which these people once farmed becomes part of a neighboring farm.

How is it possible for fewer and fewer farmers, faced with a steadily diminishing labour supply, to farm larger and larger acreages? The answer is found in large power machinery. Ten years ago a four-plow tractor was "big". Today the six-plow size is quite common. Other machines have been stepped up to match.

This trend will continue. With farm income far below that of industry, it will be some years before farmers can compete with the wages paid by industry. Farm labor will therefore continue to move to other jobs and the farmer will continue to buy larger machinery units in order that he can, with his steadily dwindling labor supply, keep abreast of his steadily increasing work.

This suggests that machinery, already a major cost, is going to take an increasing share of the farm budget in the future.

Farm machinery purchases in the past have too often been on a hit-and-miss basis. A machine was purchased because the farmer "liked the look of it", or "wanted a change", or because he was "talked into it" by a persuasive salesman. As a result, the investment in machinery on many farms is far too high. The present "cost-price squeeze" in which the farmer finds himself, does not allow for such loose business practices.

Three points should be kept in mind if a farmer is to get the most out of his machinery dollar.

1. Is he getting a machine which will do the job most effectively and economically?

Here we get into the question of design, efficiency, cost of repairs and overhaul, etc. Some very worth-while information on these matters is available from district agriculturists and experimental farms.

2. Is the investment in machinery getting out of line? Maybe a smaller model will do the job effectively, or a good used machine — or perhaps, all things considered, it would be better to hire the job done instead of tying up capital in more machinery.

3. What about the price? Is it possible to get a "better buy" elsewhere?

We need to take a good look at this question. It was examined in detail by a Royal Commission in 1936-37. This commission found that distribution costs for farm machinery were very high, and recommended that farmers form a Co-operative to supply themselves with the machinery they needed. In response to this suggestion the Canadian Co-operative Implements Limited (C.C.I.L.) was formed, with nearly 50,000 farmer-members in the three prairie provinces. A small factory was purchased in Winnipeg and further supplies of machines were obtained from Cockshutt Farm Equipment Co. at Brantford. The company started distributing machines in 1946. For the first 8 years machinery was in good demand, sales were good, and savings as high as 27% were made. During this period, C.C.I.L. conclusively proved that farmers, through co-operative action, can supply their own needs in farm machinery much more economically than the machine companies were doing.

Since 1953, a major price war has been in effect in the farm machinery business in Western Canada. Price cutting, over-payments on trades, and special deals of various kinds have been in effect. Machine companies have suffered severe losses in several of these years, and local agencies have gone out of business and changed hands repeatedly.

C.C.I.L. has had rough going during these years. Other companies have been able to absorb their losses in Western Canada because their business in other parts of the world has been prosperous. C.C.I.L. has no such "cushion", and must share the fortunes of its farmer-members in Western Canada — where the farm economy has not been good for some years.

However, C.C.I.L. is still in business and has every intention of carrying on. The price war in farm machinery will not continue much longer. The major machine companies will not continue to lose money. A truce will be called, and the days of machinery bargains will be over. When that time comes, as it soon must, farmers will again be faced with the question — What can I do to bring down the cost of farm machinery — the machinery which I need in increasing amounts if I am to get my work done? The answer to this farm problem is the same as in other farm problems — the farmer must do the job for himself, and co-operative action is the only logical way.

C.C.I.L. must be kept alive and healthy and ready for that time. When the price war is over, and machine companies again seek to make their usual profits, C.C.I.L. will again be able to make substantial savings for its members. Sixty thousand

Western farmers are members of C.C.I.L. Their average investment in shares is about \$15.00. The potential savings which that \$15.00 can make for each investor is tremendous. The average farmer has many thousands of dollars invested in his machinery. A very small savings in the purchase price would amount to many times \$15.00. The saving is there for all to enjoy. To obtain it C.C.I.L. members must do two things—(1) Patronize their own co-operative, and (2) Be their own salesmen. Savings cannot be made if members insist on C.C.I.L. spending money on costly selling methods, overpayments on trade-ins and other unsound practices. The costly and unnecessary “frills” which today surround farm machinery sales do just one thing — they cost the farmer a lot of money. They are of no real value, and farmers — who don't like frills, (at least not on their machinery) do not want them. The surest way to get rid of them, and to get the farm machinery business down to a reasonable cost level, is to support the farmer-owned, farmer-controlled co op — C.C.I.L.

### INTEREST-FREE CASH ADVANCES: FARM UNIONS SCORE AGAIN:

Cash advances on farm-stored grain, and measures to provide greater stability in farm prices to assure Canadian farmers a fair share of the national income, were welcome items in the speech from the Throne read by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at the 23rd opening of Parliament in Ottawa on October 14th.

Cash advances on wheat will be 50 cents per bushel based on a six-bushel delivery quota per specified acre. The payments on farm-stored barley will be 35 cents and on oats, 20 cents a bushel, according to the Hansard October 24th.

Under the advance plan it is reported the maximum payment established for any farmer is \$3,000.

The money to make the payments will be borrowed by the Canadian Wheat Board from the banks, and interest on the borrowed funds will be paid out of the Federal treasury. The elevator companies will obtain the funds from the Wheat Board, and will have the responsibility of issuing the advance payments to farmers making applications for same, after ensuring that the farmer has the grain stored on his farm.

After overcoming many objections to his getting another cookie before dinner, my Son Paul munched his cookie and said, “Golly, mommy, you don't have much will power, do you.”

### INFORMATION ON CENTRAL ALBERTA DAIRY POOL

by Jas. A. Wood, president, C.A.D.P.

The Board of the Central Alberta Dairy Pool has provided us with the following information, which, we believe, will be of great interest to our readers.

(1) C.A.D.P. pays competitive prices on all produce bought from members at the time of sale to C.A.D.P.

(2) At the close of each year our surplus earnings are credited to our members on a percentage basis, according to his or her total dollars worth of produce sold to C.A.D.P.

(3) To arrive at basis of earnings in any year our total earnings are worked into a percent basis, into our total purchases and are then credited to our members on this percentage basis — 1956 2.1%, this has varied from a high of 6% to a low of 1.1%.

(4) All credit of members has been redeemed for cash up to the year 1947.

Also, I would like to remark about the change in the dairy picture. With the surplus down many millions of lbs. of butter from 1956, and consumption up 6% over 1956, prices are showing improvement of close to 5c per lb. butterfat over 1956 price.

How are members kept informed about C.A.D.P. business? A member's equity record is issued to each patron. In this book entries are made for gross value, rate, credits, deductions and net balance. The preface to the record book is very interesting and gives clear-cut instructions to members. Another name for above record is “membership book”.

The C.A.D.P. plants are located at: Acme, Alix, Bentley, Bluffton, Brooks, Calgary, Coronation, Delburne, Eckville, Edberg, Elnora, Hanna, Lethbridge, Olds, Ponoka, Red Deer, Rimbey, Rocky Mountain House, Stettler.

### WHAT VALUE IS ORGANIZATION TO THE FARMERS

The following testimonial is an answer:-

M. M. Weeks, Secretary-Manager,  
Retail Merchants Association, of Canada, Inc.:

#### ORGANIZE or BE EXPLOITED

Farmers like all businessmen, professional men and labor need a strong organization, association or union to speak for them collectively.

They will be still hollering down a well individually until all farmers forget their own petty grievances, join and support financially a real strong union.

There are enough farmers in Canada to run the country. WHY DON'T THEY?

(Reprinted from The Voice of the Farmer)

## FARM PURCHASE BOARDS

The Honourable L. C. Halmrast announced today the appointment of Farm Purchase Boards covering the following districts:

Municipal District of Cardston No. 6, portion west of the 4th Meridian.

Municipal District of Mountain View No. 49.

Municipal District of Strathcona No. 83.

County of Grande Prairie No. 1.

County of Newell No. 4.

County of Ponoka No. 3, portion west of the 5th Meridian.

County of Ponoka No. 3, portion east of the 5th Meridian.

Improvement District No. 65.

Improvement District No. 108.

Improvement District No. 132.

These boards were set up under authority of the Farm Purchase Credit Act, which was passed April 11, 1957. The administration of this Act was handled by the Treasury Department until the middle of August of this year, at which time it was transferred to the Department of Agriculture.

Farm Purchase Boards in the areas mentioned above are now in a position to entertain applications from young farmers who wish to purchase land. Young farmers should contact the Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipal District in which the Farm Purchase Board is located. Farm Purchase Boards are allowed to make loans to a maximum of \$7,500.00 provided the applicant is a Canadian Citizen or British Subject and at least 21 years old and not over 55 years of age and has been a resident of Alberta for at least three years. He must have at least three years experience in farming, be of good character, and his spouse, if any, approve of this application.

## ATTENTION . . . ALL F.U.A. DELEGATES

at the  
ANNUAL F.U.A. CONVENTION

which will be held in  
DECEMBER from 9 - 13

at the Macdonald Hotel

A CAR INSURANCE BOOTH  
Will Be Operated

for the benefit of those who wish to  
obtain further information.

So bring your old or existing policies  
for review.

# Co-operatives And Social Nearness

by Emory S. Bogardus

University of Southern California Sociology and Social  
Research — Vol. 41, No. 4—March-April, 1957

Co-operatives are here defined in terms of the world-famous Rochdale pattern. They are associations of persons who are joined together voluntarily, who exercise one vote per member regarding economic matters (not one vote per share), who provide for equitable returns on capital invested and on returns of savings made by groups to the individual participants, who practice free enterprise and free competition on the basis of private property, and who avoid reliance on statism.

Social nearness is one aspect of social distance which is viewed here as referring to the different degrees of sympathetic understanding that function between persons, between persons and groups, and between groups. Social nearness means a considerable degree of sympathetic understanding between parties involved. Some of the ways by which co-operatives augment or perhaps create social nearness will now be considered.

1. By bringing members of various occupations and classes together in one working organization, a co-operative, enables these persons of diverse activities and backgrounds to understand one another, to appreciate one another's problems, and to smooth out various differences. A co-operative may include persons of widely different religious attitudes, different political affiliations, different ethnic backgrounds, and enable them to work together on the basis of their common needs.

A main reason why co-operatives increase a sense of social nearness is that they bring people together in the connections where their needs are seen to be similar if not the same. In these relationships they recognize a brotherhood of human needs. From this common ground they are able to move into an understanding, although not necessarily acceptance, of different views and beliefs and attitudes. By working together in behalf of common needs people learn first to respect one another, then to understand one another, then to develop an appreciation of one another's better qualities, and then experience a sense of social nearness.

Co-operatives augment social nearness reactions by virtue of the atmosphere of social

relations that they engender. They foster the spirit of getting ahead together, not of getting ahead of one another and not at one another's expense or loss. They strive to overcome untoward circumstances without hindering other groups of people from getting ahead too. In fact, co-operative members in working together include in their pattern of action the welfare of other groups who also are struggling ahead in meeting the needs of life.

Co-operatives create this stimulating atmosphere by allowing only above-board activities. All the cards are on the table at all times. There is no underhandedness in a true Rochdale co-operative. Everything is conducted as fairly as humanly possible, and thus people learn that they can trust one another even at the points where they may differ. In the development of trustworthiness social nearness is increased. On the basis of this high degree of ethical conduct, people learn to live together and to trust one another. Thus, co-operatives, by obtaining a unity in human thinking, decrease social farness.

At the points where co-operators disagree there is ever at hand the policy of open and democratic discussion. If differences cannot be talked out and action is required, then democratic voting can bring about a decision temporarily. However, co-operatives seek more than a mere majority as a basis for action, because an alert and well-organized minority may exercise more power in any social or business or political organization than an apathetic and unorganized or disorganized majority. While co-operatives do not delay action until they obtain a 100 per cent agreement, yet they seek to obtain approximate agreement through friendly discussion rather than by antagonistic debate.

In the background at all times there is the principle of voluntarism. Each member knows and is relaxed in knowing that he will not be the victim of compulsion, for he is free to withdraw from membership and also to withdraw all the funds that he has invested in the co-operative. Thus, democracy and voluntarism are indirect but effective helps in enabling people to work together.

Because a co-operative may be a cross section of occupations, even of classes, it develops social nearness among those who otherwise might not have the opportunity to understand one another. In the KEA co-operatives of northern Iceland, for example, the members of each of several of these societies include office and clerical workers, government employees, professional persons, farmers, farm laborers, fishermen, and of course housewives. Such co-opera-

tives have been described as being cross sections of classes and as being in no sense a class institution. To the degree that a co-operative functions as a cross section of occupations or even of classes, it is developing nearness between these different sections of human society, and in doing so it is helping to build a peaceful society as far as its influence reaches.

Without organizing as a political party, the consumer co-operative movement in Sweden maintains great political strength by gaining "the respect of the various political parties" for the principles of co-operation and by striving to obtain the support of "a broad cross-section" of the whole community, and not of one party or class.

2. Co-operatives decrease social farness, not only when persons belong to one that performs consumer and producer (including marketing and processor) functions, but when the same persons belong both to co-operatives that specialize in consumer functions and to those that concentrate on meeting producer marketing, and processor functions. By belonging to both types at once and by taking part in the activities of each, a person finds himself taking two different roles. He sees himself as a buyer, wanting to meet important needs with reliable goods and services as reasonably as possible; and he sees himself as a seller, wanting to get as high prices as reasonable. He also recognizes the need for a middle-man to help the buyer and seller to get together conveniently.

Such a person represents in his thinking the various functions of an economic system. He recognizes the reasons why conflicts arise, why there is often a great discrepancy between what the consumer pays and the price the seller receives. He sees the need for the consumer to know some of the problems of the seller of goods and services, and the need for the seller to recognize some of the problems of the consumer.

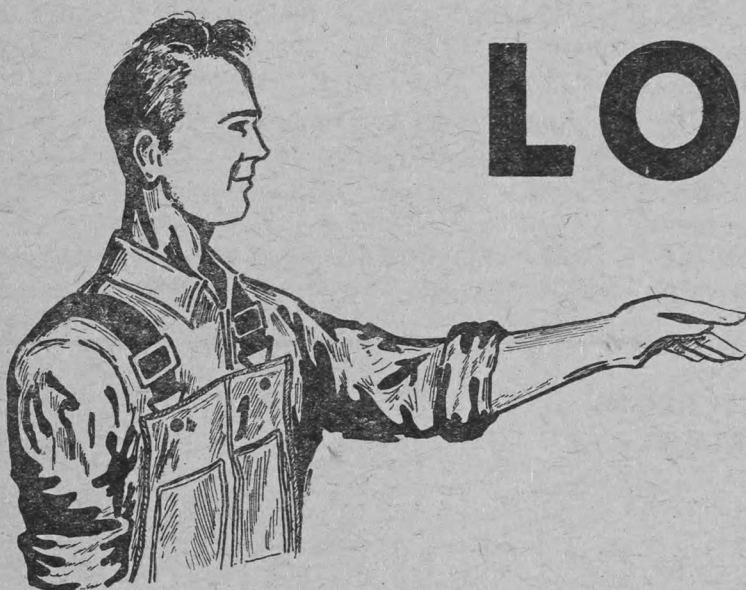
If the person who belongs both to a buyer's co-operative and to a seller's co-operative becomes a member of the management committee of both co-operatives, then he is forced to bring the buyer's and seller's viewpoints together on some kind of fair basis. He helps to determine a price level for given goods at a given time that is fair to both sets of needs as possible, a price level that will meet costs of production, marketing, and processing, and a little more, and that will at the same time meet the consumer's ability to pay. He will also help to keep the middleman's function on as a simple a plane as possible, one that will add no more than is necessary to the prices that the buyer has to pay. In Norway, for example, where the

members of the management committee of a farmer's co-operative may be members also of a consumer's co-operative, considerable success is reported in working out fair price policies. Such management board members are able to cut down the distance within themselves as buyers and as sellers.

3. Consumers co-operatives, as distinguished from other types, spell nearness in a basic sense in all countries where they function. The members of all such societies are engaged in the same type of activity the world around. They are endeavoring to meet the needs of life, first, for survival and, second, for growth. Since everybody from childhood to old age is a consumer of goods and services and since everyone is eligible to become a member of a consumers

co-operative in order to meet the various needs of life, co-operatives provide a universally feasible ground for the development of social nearness on the part of all members of the human race. On the basis of such world-wide, mutual sympathetic understanding, a more friendly and peaceful world can be envisioned.

The possibilities in this connection are almost limitless. One need is to develop the means of communication between all consumer co-operatives in every country where such co-operatives have been developed — through various publication media and through interco-operative meetings. The problem of opening up and using new means of communication between consumer co-operatives in different countries involves a common language, such as English, the use of



# LOOK !

**Farm Supplies . . . through  
your own local Co-op — at  
wholesale plus 5 per cent.**

**And at the end of each year  
— you receive a guaran-  
teed rebate of 3 per cent.**

**WHY DO I GET IT?**

Down through the years my neighbors and I have invested in Co-ops and built them with our loyal support and patronage. We built our own Alberta Co-operative Wholesale this way too. That is why we are able to enjoy this Co-op Farm Supply service.

**HOW DO I GET IT?**

I go to my local Co-op Store and put my order through their Co-op Farm Supply Department. Or if I'm in Edmonton I drop into OUR CO-OP Wholesale. It costs "a Buck" for a "lifetime membership."

**WHAT DO I GET?**

Augers, Brooders, Fencers, Grain Loaders, Wire Fencing, Lumber, Nails, Batteries, Tires, Anti-freeze, Farm Chemicals, Binder and Baler Twine, Chest Freezers, Fridges, Washing Machines, Grease, Oils, and a multitude of other things that could cost me plenty elsewhere.

**YES, ALL THESE SAVINGS . . . AND MORE, CAN BE ENJOYED AT WHOLESALE PLUS 5 PER CENT.**

**See your local Co-op Store about this Co-op Farm Supply Service  
or your Alberta Co-operative Wholesale at 11507 120 St., Edmonton**

which is spreading extensively. The opportunities of this sort are being developed by the International Co-operative Alliance, and in all democratic or free countries.

The totalitarian countries do not allow co-operatives to operate on the basis of voluntarism and free competition with other economic forms. The name may be kept but not the spirit, and hence these societies are not true co-operatives. If all consumer co-operatives could and would communicate freely, there would develop a new and lasting democratic movement throughout the free world, a new birth of democracy for mankind.

Since consumer co-operatives are able to meet the basic needs of all persons both for survival and for growth, they include the members of all other types of co-operatives—producer, manufacturing, processing, distribution, banking, insurance, credit, health, housing and so on. If communication could be freely developed between all consumer co-operatives, the members of the other types would feel the democratizing influence that would be set in motion.

4. In many indirect ways co-operatives possess a vast potential for reducing social distances outside their membership. They are engaged in improving human welfare, in helping people to get out of substandard living condi-

tions. They all avoid exploitation. Their whole record is against allowing any person or any institution to get ahead by pushing somebody or some group down hill. It is against social parasitism.

The record of the co-operatives shows how they build good will, understanding, and an equitable living together. It breathes the very essence of helpfulness, of the democratic spirit, of the value of personality, and thus indirectly as well as directly serves to create social nearness among people.

(Reprinted with written permission and courtesy of the author)

Customer: "I've called to pay for the three fish I bought yesterday."

Clerk: "Excuse me sir, you have made a mistake. You only had two herrings."

Customer: "No, I bought two herrings and one smelt."

\* \* \*

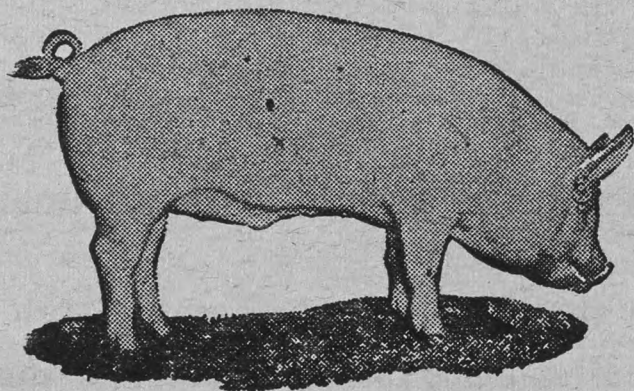
Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested.  
—Francis Bacon.

\* \* \*

The man who loses his head is usually the last one to miss it.

**FARM GRAINS MAKE GOOD FEED FOR GROWING PIGS, BUT THEY GO MUCH FARTHER WHEN MIXED WITH**

## **CO-OP HOG and SOW CONCENTRATE**



To provide a good balance of the necessary proteins, minerals and stabilized Vitamins, one 50-lb. bag of CO-OP HOG AND SOW CONCENTRATE per pig from 40 lbs. to market will save more than its cost in farm grains. Farm grains are high in carbohydrates, which are fattening. Therefore, more proteins are required to produce lean growing pigs.

□ □ □

**For Guaranteed Satisfaction Get  
Co-op Hog and Sow Concentrate  
At Your . . .**

## **CO-OP STORE**

## POSSIBILITIES FOR RURAL LIVING

An ambitious family constantly adapting and applying the findings of science to the improvement of farm and home are the Martin Felstads of Dapp, Alberta.

From the office of the district home economist at Westlock comes the news that the attractive farmstead is located on 1½ sections of land about 5 miles south-west of town and includes a fully modern home. The house with attached garage is close to lane; garden and farm buildings and the home grounds show signs of much planning as well as many hours to toil. A huge lawn, fenced against the invasion of livestock, bright perennial beds, shade trees, and shubs make relaxation and entertaining pleasant and comfortable. Their grounds and lake provide excellent facilities for family, community and teen get-togethers. The three growing sons — Daivid, Barry and John, enjoy many skating parties in the winter and much swimming and boating in summer.

The living room, comfortable and convenient, shows much ingenuity and sewing ability. Scenic draperies made by Mrs. Felstad cover the picture windows and the plain washable wallpaper was hung by her. The chesterfield and chairs were rejuvenated with smart new upholstery last winter. In the kitchen efficient equipment is used and attractive up-to-date materials.

Mrs. Felstad, a homemaker for over 20 years, combines successful homemaking with enthusiastic community work. She is a member of the local Farm Women's group and Church clubs, besides leading girls' 4-H activities in the district for many years. She and her husband are also ardent square dancers.

In view of the progress which has been made in the past it is certain that this family will continue as a team, to use the resources, human and material, to achieve their goals in life.

From Alberta Dept. of Agriculture "Farm Notes"

## TREES FOR THE FARM

Joyce Kilmer wrote a poem in praise of the beauty of trees but farmers realize a practical value as well. Whether your trees will adorn the roadside; protect the farmstead or serve as a field shelter belt, now's the time to place your order for fast growing caragana or hardwood cuttings of laurel leaf willow, golden willow or Russian poplar. Slower growing trees available include white spruce, Colo-

rado spruce, lodge pole pine, Siberian larch, American elm, mountain ash and green ash.

If you want trees be sure your land has been summerfallowed for one year, warns P. D. McCalla, Alberta's Supervisor of Horticulture. No orders are shipped unless this condition has been fulfilled. Success in this venture depends upon many conditions so why not discuss your tree planting plans with your district agriculturist first?

Trees are obtainable, express collect, from the Alberta Department of Agriculture, Legislative Buildings, Edmonton, or from the Federal Forest Nursery Station, Indian Head, Saskatchewan. Orders sent to Indian Head must be received one year prior to planting. Indian Head evergreens cost 1¢ a piece and the applicant is limited to 200 trees a year.

Over 1600 farmers received 1,400,000 trees from provincial nurseries this year. Join them in reaping tree benefits by ordering your 1958 trees now while the selection is still good.

## F.W.U.A. HIGHLIGHTS . . .

(Continued from Page 10)

Quilt-raffle and dance, held in October by Gleichen FWUA #1010 was very much a success. Mrs. Barker, director for FWUA No. 10, visited this local and gave a much needed pep talk on the FWUA. Election of officers is reported.

\* \* \*

An important and interesting demonstration on the use of broilers in cooking meals, was given by the district home economist at a meeting of Jenny Lind-FWUA #1305 (Scandia). About 60-70 lbs. of honey, 2 apple boxes of tomatoes and 13 bags of vegetables were sent to the Red Cross Hospital in Calgary in September. "Interesting clothing" is to be donated by the local to the Mental Institute at Edmonton.

\* \* \*

Cash donation and good used clothing sent to Unitarian Service Committee by Asker FWUA #902 (Ponoka). Financial aid given by the local to the community hall board for repairs and work done on the hall.

\* \* \*

Fort Saskatchewan FWUA #604 have collected good used clothing, and made jackets for children, from men's used socks, to be donated for use in Korea. It is hoped to have the home economist give a talk on foods, especially meats, in the near future. A donation was made to the Unitarian Service Com.

Use what talent you have. The woods would be mighty silent if no birds sang except those that sang best.

## FOWL CHOLERA

Dr. C. H. Bigland, Veterinary Pathologist, Alberta Department of Agriculture, reports that the number of farms affected with fowl cholera this year will likely reach if not surpass last year's total.

Acute fowl cholera spreads rapidly and can result in high mortality without the birds being previously sick, or it may be chronic and form abscesses in the wattles, sinuses, ears, eyes, joints, etc. The germ that causes it is also responsible for shipping fever, and may affect geese, ducks, turkeys, hogs, mice and buffalo as well as chickens.

The disease may be spread by contact with previously infected birds. From the exterior newly bought cockerels may appear to be in excellent health. As a safety precaution Dr. Bigland suggests isolating the new birds for three weeks with a few from your own flock (divide cocks from hens with a wire partition only). If your own isolated birds get sick dispose of all birds in isolation pens and buy more cockerels elsewhere.

Acute fowl cholera can be partially controlled by proper sanitation and management. Try to keep birds eating warm wet mash and give them plenty of clean water from disinfected containers. Keep them dry, away from draughts, and isolated. Very sick ones should be killed by wringing their necks as spilled blood may contaminate soil. Medicines such as antibiotics and sulfonamides are valuable in reducing losses but do not stop them entirely.

Chronic fowl cholera treatment is much the same as acute, but it is not always successful. It is best to cull out all infected birds.

## TABER AND VAUXHALL

Two studies are underway by the Farm Cost Studies Division of the Dairy Branch, Alberta Department of Agriculture. One of them consists of 25 farms in the Taber area; the other, 34 farms in the Vauxhall district. Taber constitutes a predominantly specialty crop economy while Vauxhall's production is chiefly along the line of grain and hay crop supplemented by livestock, reveals T. A. Peterson, Extension Economist, Alberta Department of Agriculture. Some farms in each group are receiving adequate returns, he states, while others are in financial difficulty. Generally though, those in the specialty crop area were in a better overall position.

From Alberta Dept. of Agriculture "Farm Notes"

## Open Forum

Letters for publication from members and subscribers only in The Open Forum must be brief. Pen names may be used if desired, but the pen name of the sender must accompany the letter. A recent Board of Directors' ruling limits letters to 300 words and those longer cannot be accepted. Readers are asked to observe this change. The F.U.A. does not endorse or accept any responsibility for opinions expressed under this heading.

Dear Editor: —

Usually, an article written by Mr. Bevington leaves the writer with nothing to say, but his letter on our money policy, in your September issue, leaves the writer full of queries; Mr. Bevington's idea seems to be that interest hinders development and that the financial policy is faulty, because the purchasing-power of the country is reduced by the amount of interest (8%), which is returned to the source of financial credit and that the remedy is for the government to give "an individual dividend" to the people to make up the deficiency in purchasing-power. The writer is of the opinion that the interest (8%), is not taken out of circulation, some of it goes to the chartered banks and pays for the upkeep of the institution and the staff, who circulate it. What is left is the chartered banks' profit and whoever gets the profit has a use for it that continues to be purchasing power.

The portion that goes to the Bank of Canada, pays for the upkeep of that bank and is circulated also, except for a small percentage of profit, which belongs to the country. So that part of the foundation Mr. Bevington builds his theory on is rather shaky.

To prove that there is a deficiency of purchasing-power, the illustration of industrial cycles by charts is impossible. To talk about cycles of production is O.K. but to divide them up, as if they came to an abrupt stop, is impossible. One cycle is dovetailed into another; this year, we may produce cabbage and textiles for immediate consumption, at the same time produce lumber, wheat and pig-iron for use next year. The wages and expenses involved now in the greater consumption of next year, provide adequate purchasing-power for this year.

The deficiency of purchasing-power, which has never been proved to exist, Mr. Bevington would make up for, by a straight gift from the government, "an individual dividend" and then it is stated that we would have a self-liquidating economy. How would the dividend be liquidated; it is not a loan. It would stay in circulation, the amount would be increased every year, very soon making our currency valueless. Surely, it must be evident that generally, we suffer from too much purchasing-power and at all times from maldistribution of purchasing-power.

Of course, all this is like a red herring thrown

across the path, it does not help us to get rid of our surplus grain.

W. Horner,  
Hespero, Alberta.

Dear Editor:—

In the September O.F., Ed Nelson says in part "Of the things that were accomplished, there are several outstanding examples. The Wheat Pools could be one . . . Because the farm people supported the idea, they were able to build something that has saved every farmer who sells grain many, many dollars yearly."

I farmed here in Alberta for forty some years and welcome the chance to say something about the Alberta farmers' organization. To begin with, the U.F.A. as it was known, was supposed to be educational, but all the education we ever got, was literature and lectures on the virtues of the co-op movement.

We built our own retail stores and found them saving big business, the cost of middlemen, as did their own chain stores. We built our pool elevator system with money which otherwise would have gone as profits into the pockets of the owners of the privately owned elevator companies. So far, so good. When the pool system was paid for and began paying cash dividends, the privately owned companies had to do likewise. What happened then? The prices for things the farmers had to buy were jacked up; farm costs became higher, in other words.

As long as our money was going into the building of the pool system it couldn't be priced away from us, but as soon as it became farm income, presto! Think of this, fellow moss backs, when you read in the co-op paper, our own union paper and the commercial press, about all the money the farmers are saving by having their own co-operatives. Ask yourselves is this or is it not calculated deception?

We recall that the small independent local merchants opposed the growth of the chain stores and the co-ops, big business did not.

Ned Gumbo (pen name)

Dear Editor:

I have just been reading your September issue of The Organized Farmer and thinking what a good little paper it is. The trouble with your organized farmers is, I suspect, they don't read the right stuff. The paper should be read by every member and then taken to the monthly meetings and there thoroughly discussed. If this was done then the Farm Forum would be a superfluous organization. I have belonged to a Farm Forum group and, while it is a nice little social affair, if proper use was made of our Farmers' Union it would not be needed in Alberta. I have been a member of the organization for a long time. D. W. WARNER was the man that organized us and we have been organized ever since and I believe I have been a member ever since — do you know what year? I have forgotten.

George Bevington has a very interesting article

which will need some studying, — but wouldn't the question of a shortage of purchasing power be met by reducing the prices? "If a man ask for thy coat, give him thy cloak also," said One. **No debt in that.**

Ed Nelson has a very good article, "What do Farmers' Union members expect of their Organization?" Here in this province we have all kinds of organizations started by the farmers in a co-operative way. I notice an advertisement — Alberta Livestock Co-op Ltd., and I also notice when the Vermilion Board of Trade have a special speaker for the agricultural elements in their organization, they have Don Clayton of Canada Packers. Why don't the organized farmers support their own organizations?

I am one that has always been for government insurance on cars, but as soon as this pool was started I joined right away. I would say that the most notable achievements of the farmers was to go into politics, and the most disastrous when they decided to quit. I cannot understand why farmers hold back from this car insurance scheme. I would say JOIN now, you asked for it.

R.R. 3, Vermilion.  
Hardy Wear,

## A Message to F.U.A.

Dear Farm Friends in Alberta:

The history of man's progress is largely the history of man's ability to organize. Man really began building a society and culture when he turned from a nomad into a village dweller and began growing food instead of hunting it.

My what a long way we've come! Now man is grouped together in cultural circles, in business circles, in political circles — and sometimes in circles within circles.

But rather than be discouraged or disillusioned by the great amount of organization confronting them, farmers must organize themselves. The only hope for farm families lies in a good strong organization that they control, an organization that can speak out strongly on behalf of farmers.

Our modern society has out grown the "lone wolf." Only through organization and cooperation can farm families seek and find the security they need so much in almost all lands.

Yours sincerely  
James G. Patton, president

Hard work may be good for man but there are generous souls willing to give their share to someone else.

## ALBERTA PEOPLE BEING OVERCHARGED FOR POWER

During 1956, the private power companies operating in Alberta continued to pile up still more fantastic profits for their common shareholders.

This fact is revealed in a study made for the F.U.A. by our auditors of the 1956 financial statements of the three power companies operating in the province.

The highlights of the situation, as shown by our auditors' analysis, are as follows:

1. Percentage of profit to shareholders after all expenses and income tax paid.

Calgary Power .....	13.7 %
Canadian Utilities .....	10.7 %
Northland Utilities .....	16.3 %
Average profit on shareholder investment after taxes .....	13.1 %

2. In the case of Calgary Power a fantastic rate of profit is shown on the small amounts originally invested in the common stock. These shares were issued in 1947 at \$10 each. In 1957 the original \$10 share or its equivalent earned \$11.18 in profit or 111.8%. These \$10 shares, now split 3 to 1, were recently quoted on the market at a total of \$210.75 for the \$10 investment of 10 years ago, or over 100% per year.

3. In 1956 Canadian Utilities showed a profit of \$1.62 per share on the common stock issued at \$3.33 per share. This works out at 48.6% profit, and a dividend has been paid every year.

4. Our auditors estimate that in 1956 a Pro-

vincial Power Commission operating our electrical utility, and charging the same rates for power, could have saved for the people of Alberta the large sum of \$9,067,279, or —

5. By supplying electricity at cost, a reduction of approximately 40% could be made in power rates charged to consumers.

From this analysis two facts stand out. First, the great saving which could be made through owning and operating our own electric power utility. This could reduce the fantastic profits now charged to the actual cost of interest on the money invested. This is F.U.A. policy and is the only real solution in the long run.

The other fact is that there is a good case for rate reductions even under the present system. But a rate case before the Board of Public Utilities will be a long and expensive business. The companies will fight every step of the way against rate reductions. Actually the only hope of a really substantial rate reduction is public ownership and power at cost. To that end our main effort should be bent.

F.U.A. Electric Power Committee

Madge — Don't you sailors have a special ship where you get your hair cut? A sort of floating barber shop?

Sailor — No, there ain't no such ships in our fleet.

Madge — Then what are these clipper ships I've heard so much about?

## MEMBERSHIP RECORD FOR OCTOBER, 1957

DISTRICT	Oct. Men	To Date Men	Oct. Women	To Date Women	Oct. Assoc.	To Date Assoc.	Oct. Jrs.	To Date Jrs.	To Date Total
Dist. 1 .....		1689	---	462	---	1	---	291	2443
Dist. 2 .....		1457	---	384	---	---	---	286	2127
Dist. 3 .....	1	1770	---	455	---	2	---	265	2492
Dist. 4 .....		2064	---	528	---	---	---	460	3052
Dist. 5 .....		1517	---	564	---	3	---	405	2489
Dist. 6 .....	6	2777	---	1073	---	8	---	564	4422
Dist. 7 .....	1	2747	---	805	---	3	---	420	3975
Dist. 8 .....		2208	---	561	---	---	---	351	3120
Dist. 9 .....	6	2331	5	690	---	3	4	351	3375
Dist. 10 .....	1	2601	---	662	---	16	---	261	3540
Dist. 11 .....		1494	---	494	---	13	---	180	2181
Dist. 12 .....		1902	---	733	---	3	---	320	2958
Dist. 13 .....	4	858	1	324	---	2	---	129	1313
Dist. 14 .....	2	1770	---	405	---	---	---	203	2378
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2785</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8140</b>	---	<b>54</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4486</b>	<b>39865</b>

## Farm Union Representative Wins Recognition



**James Patterson, Chairman,  
Interprovincial Farm Union Council.**

Mr. James Patterson, president of the Interprovincial Farm Union Council, was invited to become a member of the Canadian Trade Delegation to Great Britain. This is the first time in Canadian History that a member of a farm body in Canada was accorded such a distinction. The invitation was extended by Prime Minister Diefenbaker.

The Farm Union people of Western Canada will be following this trade mission very closely, because they have hopes that this move could bring more trade for wheat.

While Mr. Patterson is away on this mission, for the remainder of this year, Mr. A. W. Platt, president of the Alberta Farmers Union, will be acting president for the I.F.U.C.

## CFA President Goes to Rome

Mr. Herb Hannam president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture has been appointed as advisor to the Canadian Delegation which will attend the FAO meeting at Rome. The initials FAO stand for FOOD and AGRICUL-



**Mr. Herb Hannam,  
President of the C.F.A.**

TURE ORGANIZATION which is a specialized agency of the United Nations. Although the FAO is doing an outstanding job in fostering better agriculture and higher standard of living in the underdeveloped parts of the world, its success and implication is not too well known to Western Canada. We hope that Mr. Hannam will be able to bridge the gap.



**J. S. Herschelt**

Mr. J. S. Herschelt joins F.U.A. Accounting Service at Central Office. Further information in next issue.

# FARMERS' PARLIAMENT



This month the 70 democratically elected delegates of the Alberta Wheat Pool begin their annual meeting. They represent the nearly 50,000 Wheat Pool members.

Delegates will review in detail the operations of the farmers' co-operative, discuss the problems of grain producers and set out Wheat Pool policies.

Wheat Pool delegates, all of whom must be farmers, take complete charge of the meeting. It is a farmers' parliament. This control by the members provides the assurance that the Wheat Pool will continue to operate for the benefit and protection of farm people.

## ALBERTA WHEAT POOL

**Farmer-Owned Co-operative**